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FOIA Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
National Headquarters
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
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Washington, DC 20460
(202) 566-1667

February 01, 2019

FOIA REQUEST

Fee waiver requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of

1) Any and all electronic records reflecting communications between (a) former Administrator Scott Pruitt, Henry Darwin, Ryan Jackson, Nancy Grantham, or any employees in the Office of the Administrator or the Office of Public Affairs and (b) Sinclair Broadcast Group Chief Political Analyst Boris Epshteyn, any other employees of Sinclair Broadcast Group, or anyone with the email address ending with "@sgbi.net," "@sbgtv.com," "@sinclairstations.com," "@sinclaircomms.com," "@sinclaircommunications.net," or "@5wpr.com."

2) Any and all written and electronic records from former Administrator Scott Pruitt, Henry Darwin, Ryan Jackson, Nancy Grantham, or any employees in the Office of the Administrator or the Office of Public Affairs which mention any of the following: "Bottom Line With Boris," "Boris Epshteyn," "Sinclair Broadcast Group," or "Sinclair Broadcasting." This request seeks records from April 17, 2017, to June 15, 2018.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format (e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not).

Fee Categorization

For fee categorization purposes, I am a representative of the news media. Through this request, I am gathering information for my journalistic work with Media Matters for America, a nonprofit organization that publishes original research and reporting. Accordingly, I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II); id. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iv)(II).

Request for Fee Waiver

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is not primarily in my commercial interest and will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

Request for Expedited Processing

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a research fellow, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the activities of federal government officials because they are involved in impending decisions that the public needs immediate information on so they may contribute to the public discourse. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Conclusion

If my request is denied in whole or part, please justify all withholdings by reference to specific exemptions and statutes, as applicable. For each withholding please also explain why your agency “reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption” or why “disclosure is prohibited by law[.]” 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A)(i).

I would appreciate your communicating with me by email or telephone, rather than by mail.

I look forward to your determination regarding my request for expedited processing within 10 calendar days, as the statute requires.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Pamela Vogel